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CURRENT HISTORY,
 DETROIT, MICH., U. S. A.

GEMS IN VERSE.

Midocene.
 Is there no symbol of the land to be—
 A floating weed, some broken, struggling
 branch—
 Nothing to break the solemn round expanse
 Of this unending, deep blue, awful sea?
 Brave ship to sail upon the unknown track!
 Brave souls that dare, brave hearts that longing
 wait.
 Though storm and wind assail! Ship, turn not
 back!
 Let us go on, with faith o'ertrumping fate.
 How fearful is this scene! Yet many a time
 In London town I've known an hour more drear
 Amid starved souls and faces dark with crime;
 Have felt such heartache as none knows not here.
 What loneliness akin to that white stare
 Of hungry faces, hurrying—God knows where!
 —William Ordway Partridge.

Sand.
 I observed a locomotive in the railroad yards
 one day.
 It was waiting in the roundhouse, where the
 locomotives stay;
 It was panting for the journey; it was coiled
 and fully manned,
 And it had a box the fireman was filling full of
 sand.
 It appears that locomotives cannot always get
 a grip
 On their slender iron pavement, 'cause the
 wheels are apt to slip.
 And when they reach a slippery spot their tac-
 tles they command,
 And to get a grip upon the rail they sprinkle it
 with sand.
 If your track is steep and lilly, and you have a
 heavy grade,
 And if those who've gone before you have the
 rails quite slippery made,
 If you ever reach the summit of the upper table-
 land,
 You'll find you'll have to do it with a liberal use
 of sand.
 If you strike some frigid weather and discover
 to your cost
 That you're liable to slip on a heavy coat of
 frost,
 Then some prompt, decided action will be called
 into demand,
 And you'll slip away to the bottom if you haven't
 any sand.
 You can get to any station that is on life's
 schedule seen
 If there's fire beneath the boiler of ambition's
 strong machine,
 And you'll reach a place called Flushing at a
 rate of speed that's grand
 If for all the slippery places you've a good supply
 of sand.

The Baffled Pessimist.
 I sat me down to write a rhyme of gloom.
 All was in tune for it; my temples throbb'd;
 In semidarkness was my cheerless room.
 And through the trees the sad breeze sighed
 and sobb'd;
 My heart was burning with a fancied woe;
 Digestion waited not on appetite;
 My spirits came in dull and sluggish flow;
 Naught was there in the world that pleased
 my sight.

My pen itself would not put down the thought—
 The pessimist thought—that held my mind.
 Try as I would the fancy flew uncought,
 Uncatchable as any transient wind.
 Yet I wrote on, and when the rhyme complete
 Stared boldly at me from the saffron page
 I found myself a victim to defeat—
 I'd written this a truly happy age!
 I'd said that in this life were more of good
 Than wicked things; despite the heavy mist
 Of present trial, those who understood
 Life as it really is could not resist.
 The true conclusion, tried and guaranteed,
 That we have many blessings; and no grief,
 However much because of it the heart may
 bleed,
 Has ever been without some sweet relief.

Alas! that I, disciple true of gloom,
 Philosopher of woe, should e'er confess
 That joy upon this earth hath any room.
 The mortals find here aught of happiness!
 And yet, though I seem faithless to my creed
 In writing then that optimistic song,
 I am not so. It proves its truth, indeed,
 When even I, its follower, go wrong.
 —John Kendrick Bangs.

How to Vote.
 Let every man who has a vote
 Vote for "Progress!"
 Not for party, peace or pleasure;
 Not for favor, fame or treasure;
 Vote for every honest measure—
 Vote for "Progress!"

Vote as if your vote might carry—
 Vote for "Progress!"
 Franchise is a gift from heaven;
 Sacred trust to mankind given;
 Be not like dumb cattle driven—
 Vote for "Progress!"

Vote for men above suspicion—
 Men of "Progress!"
 No, not wirepullers; nay, forsooth!
 But men who from their early youth
 Lov'd justice, honor, God and truth—
 Fought for "Progress!"

That man who sells his vote for gold
 Should be a slave!
 What! sell thy birthright for a bribe,
 And kinship claim with Esau's tribe?
 Such manhood scarce as we describe,
 Both fool and knave!

Vote for your country, God and home,
 And for "Progress!"
 Don't say, "Let well enough alone,"
 But kick aside each stumbling stone
 As if this land were all your own—
 Vote for "Progress!"
 —John Imrie.

Life.
 Ah, what is life! so brief at best—
 A waking between rest and rest;
 An insect's trail along the sand;
 A gem's bright flash upon the hand;
 A wave line traced on ocean's shore,
 Just rippled there, then seen no more;
 A breath upon a frosty pane,
 A moment warmed, then chilled again;
 The shadow of a cloud that stays
 Until obscured by passing haze.
 Canst thou be aught more brief, more fleet,
 To image forth "Time's flying feet?"
 Yet in the "shadow," in the "breath,"
 Our love awakes, which knows no death,
 And life, which seems so brief to be,
 Is crowned by immortality!
 —Margaret May.

Death.
 Death to the virtuous no terror brings,
 But in the tyrant's ear there ever rings
 A knell imaginary, which casts a fear
 Throughout his soul; he thinks the time is near
 When shall pass from him all his ill got power,
 And, as he thinks on death, he dreads the hour.
 For him heaven unbars its golden gate,
 But in his bosom burns the hell of hate.
 Strange that a man, who knows how short is
 life,
 Should waste his hours in most ignoble strife
 Instead of cultivating heavenly love—
 The only path to the realms above;
 The only way to erring mortals given
 To make this beautiful earth resemble heaven.
 —George Markham Tweddell.

A Prayer.
 I ask not for wealth, but power to take
 And use the things I have aright;
 Not years, but wisdom that shall make
 My life a profit and delight.

I do not ask for love below,
 That friends shall never be estranged,
 But for the power of loving so,
 My heart may keep its youth unchanged.
 Youth, joy, wealth—Fate, I give thee these.
 Leave faith and hope till life is past,
 And leave my heart's best impulses
 Fresh and unfading to the last.
 —Phoebe Cary.

No work is lost, no striving or endeavor
 But marches through the future's open door,
 And through the present ages is throbbing ever
 The life of all ages gone before.

His Way of Reasoning.

As the coal yard the other day a new
 driver was hired, and he went off to deliver
 his first load. He failed to return, and a
 search was instituted. The missing car
 was found at the house, where he had put
 the coal in the cellar and had then taken up
 his quarters in the kitchen.
 The cook said she could not get him to
 leave, and the driver was asked what he
 meant by such conduct.
 "Why," he replied, "I thought I was sold
 with the coal, for I was weighed with it."
 —Pittsburg Chronicle.

A Necessary Condition.



"Don't you think you could love me a
 little if you knew that I would die for you?"
 "Possibly, if you will give proof satisfac-
 tory to a coroner's jury."—Life.

Fixing Hannah.
 The circuit rider for a mountain district
 in West Virginia was stopping for a day or
 two at the place where he was to preach on
 Sunday, and to him a mountaineer came
 with a box of mountain mail and wanted
 to be married then and there.

"Where's your license?" asked the mis-
 ter.

The man was surprised.

"Ain't got none," he said. "We don't
 have to have no license, do we? We ain't
 agoin' to sell liquor."

That was all the license he knew about.

The minister explained to him, and he
 rode away 10 miles to the county seat and
 later in the day appeared with the license.

"That cost me a dollar, mister," he said
 ruefully. "Do you charge anything?"

"You can pay me whatever you please
 but I never charge less than a dollar."

"Well, I've only got half a dollar, mis-
 ter, and won't get the balance till after
 harvest."

The minister hesitated, because he
 thought the mountaineer was trying to
 beat him, and while he was willing to per-
 form the ceremony gratis he didn't want
 to put prices. All at once the mountaineer
 put in:

"I've got it, mister," he exclaimed, show-
 ing the half dollar at him. "Here's half
 yer price. Now, you marry Hannah to me
 they ain't nobody livin' that I want but
 Hannah, and Hannah kinder bankers fer
 whole passel of fellers that is better lookin'
 than I am, but ain't so well off, so if you
 git her fixed you needn't worry about it
 at all. Take your half dollar an go ahead
 on Hannah. You kin fix me after harvest
 an I'll give you t'other half when the job's
 done."

However, the minister couldn't see his
 way clear to settling it that way, and he
 completed the job then and waited until
 after harvest for his fee. —Detroit Free
 Press.

Two Lawyers.
 First Lawyer (angrily)—I've a good mind
 to sue you.
 Second Lawyer—I shouldn't like any
 thing better. There's only one trouble
 about two lawyers going to law. A lawyer
 can never do himself justice when he pleads
 his own case.

First Lawyer—That's easily fixed. I'll
 plead your case, and you plead mine.—New
 York Weekly.

A Test.
 Mrs. McBride—Before we were married
 you often wished there was some brave
 deed you could do for me to show your
 love.
 Mr. McBride—Yes, dear, and I would do
 it now.

Mrs. McBride—Then, love, go down into
 the kitchen and discharge Bridget.—Har-
 per's Bazar.

A Dumb Boy.
 Little Johnny—That new boy in school is
 awful dumb.
 Mother—Doesn't he know his lessons?
 Little Johnny—Huh! There was 20 words
 in the spelling lesson today, and he missed
 every one of them. I only missed 19.—Good
 News.

Not Her Size.
 Jack—I don't see why somebody doesn't
 give Miss Willing a diamond ring. She
 constantly sighs for one.
 Charley—Humph! Something besides
 size is to be considered in connection with
 diamond rings.—Jewelers' Weekly.

He Ignored the Sarcasm.
 "This is a nice time to come home," she
 said.
 "I am glad to hear you say so, dear," he
 answered. "I thought you might think I
 was rather late."—New York Press.

A Plausible Derivation.
 Bobby—What sort of a doctor is a spe-
 cialist, papa?
 Father—One who devotes himself to the
 acquirement of specie.—S. & G.'s Monthly.

Boston Philosophy.
 She was a Boston maiden, and she'd scarcely
 passed eighteen.
 And as lovely as an hour, but of grave and
 sober mien;
 A sweet encyclopedia of every kind of lore,
 Though love looked coyly from behind the
 glasses that she wore.

She sat beside her lover with her elbow on his
 knee,
 And dreamily she gazed upon the slumbering
 summer sea.
 Until he broke the silence, saying, "Pray, Mi-
 nerva, dear,
 Inform me of the meaning of the thingness of
 the here."

"I know you're just from Concord, where the
 lights of wisdom be.
 Your head crammed full to bursting, love, with
 their philosophy.
 Those hoary headed sages and maids of history
 Have solved me the conundrum, love, that I have
 put to you."

She smiled a dreamy smile and said: "The
 thingness of the here
 Is that which is not past and hasn't yet ar-
 rived, my dear.
 Indeed," the maid continued, with a calm, un-
 ruffled brow,
 "The thingness of the here is just the thingness
 of the now."

A smile illumed the lover's face, and without
 any haste
 He said a manly arm around the maiden's
 slender waist,
 And on her cherry lips impressed a warm and
 loving kiss.
 And said, "Love, this is the first and the last
 of the thingness of the here."

Notice.
 Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day
 of December, 1902, the Purdy Extract Com-
 pany of Lincoln, Nebraska, adopted amended
 Articles of Incorporation and filed the same
 on the office of the County Clerk of Lancaster
 County, Nebraska, which amended Articles
 provided as follows:

First. The name of the corporation shall be
 The Purdy Extract Company.
 Second. Its principal place of transacting
 its business is Lincoln, Lancaster County,
 Nebraska.
 Third. The general nature of the business
 to be transacted shall be the manufacture and
 selling of perfumes, blotters, baking powder,
 toilet articles, etc., and the procuring, erec-
 tion and maintenance of buildings, machin-
 ery, appliances, trade marks, patents, designs
 and structures as may be deemed necessary
 and to purchase and own real estate as a site
 therefore and such other purpose as may be
 deemed necessary.

Fourth. The amount of capital stock
 authorized and the time and condition on
 which it is to be paid in is thereby fixed at
 \$75,000.00 in shares of \$100.00 each, including
 stock theretofore issued. No stock shall be
 issued unless fully paid up and a complete
 record of the issuance and delivery of all stock
 made shall be kept by the secretary in a book
 for that purpose.

Fifth. The commencement of the corpora-
 tion is fixed at the first day of May, 1901, and
 the termination of the corporation is fixed
 at a period of twenty-five years from the
 date of this commencement if not sooner
 dissolved according to law.

Sixth. The highest amount of indebted-
 ness or liability to which the corporation is at
 any time to subject itself shall not exceed
 fifty per cent of its capital stock.
 Seventh. The officers by which the affairs
 of the corporation are to be conducted shall be
 a Board of Directors consisting of not
 more than nine nor less than three members
 and the officers of this corporation may be
 members of said board, which said board of
 directors shall be chosen and elected by the
 stockholders annually at the annual meeting
 of said stockholders. Said board of directors
 shall hold office until their successors are
 duly elected and qualified. The said board of
 directors shall choose and elect from their
 number the various officers of said corpora-
 tion as soon as practicable after the
 election of said board and said board of direc-
 tors shall fix the compensation to be paid
 said officers. The said board of directors
 shall have power to fill all vacancies in the
 board or offices by appointment.

The board of directors of this corpora-
 tion are authorized to increase the capital
 stock of this corporation not to exceed an
 amount total of \$75,000.00 and to issue stock
 therefor from time to time as the board of
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 C. W. BAYAN, Secretary.
 A. H. TALBOT, President.

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 C. W. BAYAN, Secretary.
 A. H. TALBOT, President.

Notice.
 Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of a
 chattel mortgage, dated Jan. 7, 1902, and duly
 filed in the office of the County Clerk of Lan-
 caster county, Neb., on March 15, 1902,
 and executed by Wm. Putnam to M. A. Edson,
 to secure the payment of the sum of \$31.25,
 and in which there is now due the sum of \$31,
 and by virtue of a lien for keeping, made by Wm.
 Putnam by J. H. Edson with Herman Brown,
 the seed of the two horses hereafter de-
 scribed, from May 1st, 1902 to Jan. 30th, 1903,
 at a contract price of \$1.00 per head per month
 till Oct. 1, 1902 and the reasonable value of
 seed, to \$1.50 per head per month each,
 and which lien has been duly filed with the
 County Clerk Feb. 1, 1903, and duly assigned to
 N. H. Edson, and both of which are now as-
 signed to J. H. Edson, and on which lien
 there is now due \$31.40. Default having been
 made in the payment of said sums and no
 other or other proceedings at law having been
 instituted to recover said debt or any part
 thereof, therefore I will sell the property
 herein described: One gray mare four years
 old, weight 1,000 pounds, called "Red," one dun
 colored horse seven years old, weight 900
 pounds, called "Billy," and one brown cow five
 years old, called "Brooklyn," at public auction
 at the house of J. H. Edson, in Garfield precinct,
 Lancaster County, Neb., on the 11th day of
 March, 1903, at one o'clock p. m. of said day.
 Dated Feb. 17, 1903. J. H. Edson, Clerk.

2-18-03

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 The Y. P. S. C. E. Souvenir Spoon.
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